

SCANNED BY: EVANGELISTI
EDITED BY: ZOMBIEBOASTER
TEAM KOMICS-LIVE.COM
SPECIAL THANKS TO: PRADEEN



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CYBER 7

TM



**FIRST
ISSUE**

the PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

AIRBOY no. 47 Part 2 of 4
The Airboy Diary continues as Mistry sets out to destroy New York City!

CYBER 7 no. 1
New Manga Series!
The Cyber 7 robots can do anything... if you can talk them into it! Intense science fiction spanning the bridge between our earth dimension and the core-reality!

FUSION no. 14
Writer Christy Marx details the tragic events surrounding Indio and Haven's first encounter during the Gene/Toch war!

THE LAST KISS
Classic literary works of Edgar Allan Poe and D. H. Lawrence are adapted by comics artist John Welliss and presented with some of his own original pieces.

DIRTY PAIR no. 4 (of 4)
Life and death hang in the balance as the Dirty Pair fight a losing battle in outer space!

BROUGHT TO LIGHT
Limited Edition
The critically acclaimed media sensation, *Brought To Light* is now available in a limited hardcover edition.

DR. WATCHSTOP/ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE
Dr. Watchstop studies physics, archeology, zoology and space exploration, but sometimes he misses the bigger picture. A graphic novel collection.

SCOUT WAR SHAMAN no. 12
Scout and Rosa form an uneasy alliance as they attempt to subvert Redwax's Canadian suppliers.

LOST PLANET no. 6
Bo Hampton returns from penning Total Eclipse to finish the saga of Tyler Flynn's adventures on the Lost Planet!

STORMWATCHER no. 1
New Series!
A mighty all-warrior faces the greatest challenge of all—retirement! Will he take his golden years lying down?

APPLESEED BOOK TWO no. 1
Deunan and Brannar return for another sell-out *Appleseed* masterpiece! Painted covers for the whole series are by Arthur Adams!

THE ART OF JOHN BOLTON
Acme Press provides a retrospective on the work of top comics artist John Bolton.

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT: I don't have enough time to answer all the mail I receive, and I'm not enough of a yuppie to hire somebody to answer it for me, so this is, for what it's worth, a series of quick replies to a number of folks who've written lately with gifts, questions, requests, and words of advice.

To T.E.R.: Thank you very much for the wonderful linen-finish postcards. They're just the kind of thing Dean and I collect, and we're very grateful to you.

To A.T.: I passed your request along to Kingsley, and by now you'll have received the Eclipse Artists' Guidelines. Send another self-addressed stamped envelope if you want the Eclipse Writers' Guidelines too. Good luck.

To S.Z.S. and E.H.: Thanks for the tidal wave of news clippings. Those about comics we send to Michigan State University Library after we've read them.

To B.C.: I'm glad you liked the books. We enjoy your letters and hope you write again whenever you have time.

To All the People Who Have Sent in Fit To Print Logos: Thanks. I have more than I can use. I pick logos to suit the "theme" of each column, and hope to use at least one from each contributor whose logos include both the name of the column and my byline.

To R.G. and M.G.: Thank you for the apple pie. It's delicious!

To T.M.M. aka J.B.: So, when are you gonna get some J.B. stationery?

To J.B.: Keep 'em flyin'.
To R.L.G. and M.W.: Of course we'll see you in San Diego for the Con this summer, but if you travel North before then, do drop in.

To L.G.: I understand your disappointment over the cancellation of *The Dreamery*, but perhaps *Ariane* and *Bluebeard* by Craig Russell will console you.

To F.B.: Yes, you can come visit our office. Call in advance for directions, and please plan to arrive after three p.m., when we'll have dealt with our daily deadlines and can devote some time to chatting with you.

To A.Z.Y.: E.T. phone home.

To B.J.: Yes, we will be publishing more trading cards. Apparently your store doesn't carry the *Eclipse Extra*, or you'd have seen the reproduction of Bill Sienkiewicz's Noriega card from the upcoming *Friendly Dictators* set. That deck will be out in April.


To R.L.: We've got your name on file, so your bad checks are not good here. Send cash next time.

To S.D.: No, we still can't reveal the details on that "top secret" fantasy album you've evidently heard about, but this summer, check out our *Peter Pan* graphic albums, adapted by Andy Mangels, Craig Hamilton, and Rick Bryant.

To M.L.L.: We haven't received one of your mini-comics in a long time. Even though we never reply, we all enjoy them and hope you'll send us another, if you're still producing them.

To D.S.: Ditto for you and your poetry. The Valentine's Day card was really the best yet, a classic.

To Everyone Else: Thanks for buying and reading our stuff! You mean a lot to us, even if we don't answer every letter!

catherine yronwode




BRIDGE ONE: The Man With The Rabbit Face

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

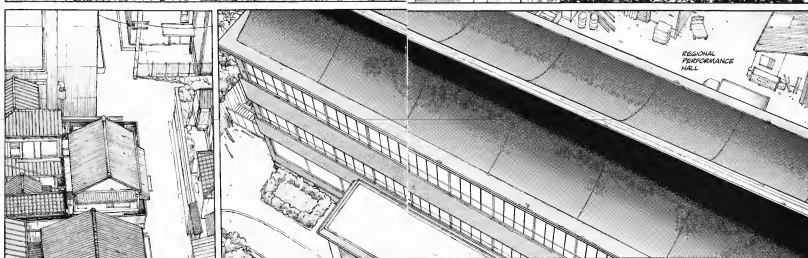
LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA

WESTERN KONAN.
ON THE SHORES OF LAKE BIWA, JAPAN.



第15回 大津市民文化会
劇団ノームびわ湖公演
主催／滋賀県教育委員会

SIGN: "THE 15TH ANNUAL OTSU CITY CULTURAL FESTIVAL SPONSORED BY THE SHIGA PREFECTURE EDUCATION COMMITTEE. THEATRE TROUPE GNOME. EXCLUSIVE LAKE BIVA PERFORMANCE."

THAKTHAK

HEY!!
WHERE'S THE
DIRECTOR?
OVER AT
THE COFFEE
SHOP?

UH, HUH. HE
WAS GONNA ASK
THEM TO SELL
TICKETS FOR
US...

OH, YEAH--
TELL EVERYONE
WE'RE STARTING
THE PRESS
REHEARSAL AS
SOON AS HE GETS
BACK, TOO...

THAKTHAK

THAKTHAK



UH, YEAH..
WELL OUR
DIRECTOR
ISNT AROUND
RIGHT NOW.

児童



AW COME ON!
THE GUY ON THE
PHONE'S CLIMBIN'
THE WALL.
ALREADY! SAYS
ANYBODY
WILL DO!

OKAY,
OKAY...



COME
ON...

COME
ON...

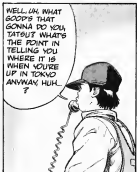


FOR GOD'S
SAKE,
HURRY,
WILL YOU!



HELLO?! HELLO?!
THAT YOU, DAD? IT'S
TATSUKI--ANSWER THE
PHONE A LITTLE
FASTER NEXT TIME,
WILL YA? I'M IN BIG
TROUBLE HERE!











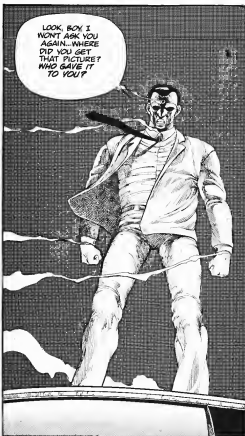








LOOK, BOY I
WONT ASK YOU
AGAIN...WHERE
DID YOU GET
THAT PICTURE?
WHO GAVE IT
TO YOU?



I DONT
KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!

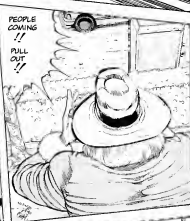


SPKK

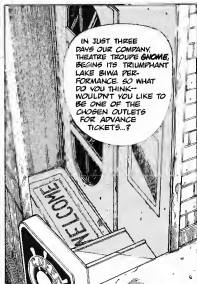
YOU
LITTLE
BASTARD..

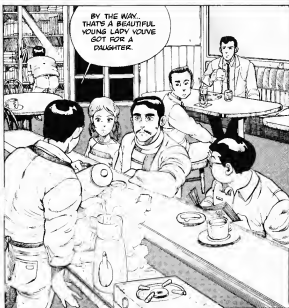












SCHOOL'S ON VACATION,
SO SHE'S HELPING OUT
WITH THE TROUPE...OR
THAT'S WHAT *SHE*
CALLS IT, ANYWAY.
ACTS MORE LIKE SHE'S
SIGHTSEEING...

UNCLE! I AM *NOT*
ACTING LIKE THAT!
I'M IN THE PLAY,
AREN'T I? IN
A SKINTIGHT
COSTUME, TOO!

SKINTIGHT,
HUH...
GOTTA
GET ME A
TICKET.

HER NAME'S
NATSUKO.
AND THAT'S
HER
YOUNGER
BROTHER
TAKU.

ALL HE EVER
DOES IS READ
COMIC BOOKS!

DO NOT,
NATSUKO...

THIS IS
MONDAY ZOOM
MAGAZINE--
I'M INTO
INVESTIGATIVE
PHOTO-
JOURNALISM
NOW! LOOK!

!

Fairies at the scene of the crash!!

It took place fourteen years ago, that tragic accident on Tokyo's Kama-Izashiki elevated freeway. Thirteen vehicles were involved in a chain-reaction pileup that sent a span of the freeway crashing to the streets below. One man died in the disaster, and eight others were left seriously injured.

Were that the end of it, this would be just another entry in the sad list of fatal traffic accidents on our nation's highways. But with *Monday Zoom's* acquisition of the shocking photograph on the following page, the tragedy takes on a new dimension. This photograph was taken by a certain person (wishing to remain anonymous) who just happened to be in the area with a camera at the time of the crash.

Who is the man in the photo? None other than the victim whose body was later found in the wreckage of the terrible accident. As our readers can see from the vehicles burning in the background, this man clearly did not die at the time of the collision, as was reported. But even stranger than that, what are we to make of the tiny spirit-like creatures surrounding the man, little girl, and baby? And what became of the girl and baby, neither of whom appeared in the official accident report? And the man himself—how did he die? Not killed accidentally, but murdered? By whom? And why?

Today, fourteen years after the fact, it may seem that too long a time has passed to unravel the mystery of this photograph, yet we at *Monday Zoom* pledge to reopen the investigation, and bring the truth to light.

The body of the man in the photograph was never identified. If any of our readers recognize him, please contact our editorial department immediately.

Will our reporter meet these seven "fairies" in the days ahead? *Monday Zoom* readers will be the first to know!



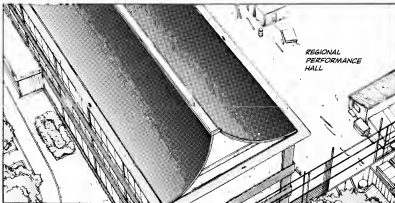


DAMN IT, TATSUKI, YOU FOOL! IT HAD TO BE YOU SNOOPING THROUGH MY PICTURE FILES..!

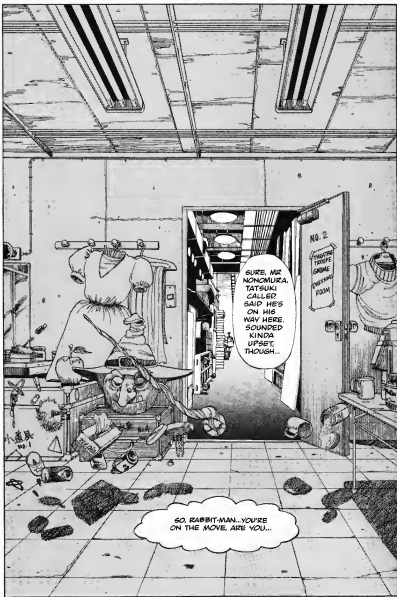
NOW THE SAME GUYS WHO WERE AFTER NATSUKO AND TAKU FOURTEEN YEARS AGO CAN USE THIS TO TRACK THEM DOWN !!



THAT LITTLE GIRL IS ME... AND THAT'S TAKU AS A BABY, AND OUR REAL FATHER... IT HAS TO BE!



REGIONAL PERFORMANCE HALL



TO BE CONTINUED

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CYBER 7™



the ECLIPSE PENUMBRA

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ON THE RACKS

- **AIRBOY no. 48: Special Issue!**
Part three of "The Airboy Diary" story comes to New York to rain death upon the unsuspecting city!
- **CYBER 7 no. 2**
Taku starts remembering strange things... like being born in a different dimension! Also, introducing the Cyber Seven robots!
- **FRIENDLY DICTATORS TRADING CARDS**
The much demanded sequel to The In-Contra Scandal! Trading Cards is here! Meet America's most embarrassing "fakes," from Manuel Noriega to Ferdinand Marcos. Painted by Bill Sienkiewicz!
- **TOTAL ECLIPSE no. 5: Super Serial!**
Will Nine Crocodile succeed in destroying the timeline? Find out in this exciting conclusion to Total Eclipse!
- **P. CRAIG RUSSELL'S ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF THE OPERA**
Russell's award-winning opera adaptations are here collected in one lush color volume.
- **POINT BLANK no. 1: New Serial!**
Acme Press brings you the best European adventure serials every month!
- **THE WEASEL PATROL no. 1: New Title!**
Laugh your way through two true stories of those sworn to protect, to serve and to run away!
- **THE ADOLESCENT RADIOACTIVE BLACK BELT HAMSTERS MASSACRE: THE JAPANESE INVASION #1**
The Hamsters take on the best Japan has to offer, from K-Armway to Astro Bob the Big Boy!
- **SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 13**
Beez La Duke attempts to single-handedly stop the flow of supplies to Redwre's insurgent troops!
- **TALES OF THE BEANWORLD**
The first four classic issues of Beanworld are collected into one volume with comprehensive background material.
- **APPLESEED: BOOK TWO no. 3**
Deunan and Branos must spring Hiroshi from jail in a desperate bid to stop the city's computer from destroying all!
- **DR. WATCHSTOP: ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE LIMITED EDITION**
This wild collection of the Doctor's adventures is now available in a signed and numbered hardcover edition.

TOO MUCH FUN: The guys who design big office buildings have the right idea, in a way. They build them with tinted windows that don't open, so you can't smell the air or feel the fresh breezes on your skin. They section you off into a small cubicle, so that opportunities for conversation and walking about are restricted. They illuminate your cubicle with artificial lights so you can't see the clear sunlight you're missing. They put the buildings up tall, so you can't see the grass growing down on the earth below. They surround each office with similar offices, so you forget that nature in all its fecundity lies right outside your city limits.

In short, the designers of great office buildings know that it is in the best economic interests of your employer to limit your experiences to the cubicle in which you must sit and work, day after day, else you might strain at the traces and long to be free.

Of course some oddballs believe that offices should not cut an employee off from the natural or the human world. The Eclipse office, for instance, is only one storey high. Everyone works in a large common space which is lit by the sun through south-facing windows, and surrounded by flowers, grass, and trees.

The front windows and doors are kept open in good weather, and the breeze blows in to ruffle the fine hairs on our skins, bearing with it the aromas of daffodils and plum blossoms and the sounds of our crowing rooster. Just outside the doors there are a couple of white-painted wooden Adirondack lawn chairs where editors can sit while they read scripts.

This week contractors will begin building an eighty-foot long pergola right past the office. We will grow climbing roses, wisteria, and grapes upon it, and there'll be a small gazebo built in, housing a bench for editors.


It probably sounds better than it looks (there are gophers in the garden, after all, and I've noticed an attack of thrips on some of the gladioli), but the Eclipse office lacks one important ingredient.

It lacks Built-In Efficiency.

You see, it's such a short step from looking out at the flowers to deciding to walk among them. And once among them, you notice a dandelion sprouting near the foxgloves and so must grub it out. One weed leads to another, and suddenly you see a volunteer phlox seedling in the path where it will get stepped on if it is not transplanted. That entails a trip to the potting shed to find a trowel, and once the phlox has been safely moved, you notice the violets spreading over their brick edging into the path, so the strays must be rooted up and replanted into a bare spot between the catnip and the sage.

Before you know it, half an hour has gone by, you've got dirt under your fingernails, you have to wash up before you can handle Mike Grell original artwork, and the Federal Express guy is here to pick up packages.

Like I said, the arrangement looks nice, but it lacks Efficiency. It simply allows for too much fun. And everyone knows that editing comics is Serious Business.

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE TWO : Natsuko and the Seven Dwarves

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

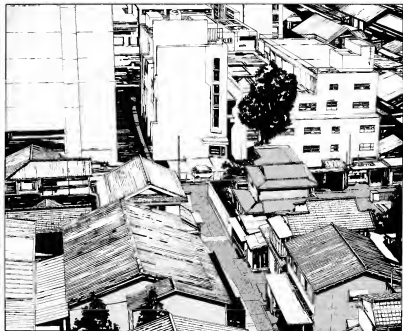
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EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA



COME ON
TAKU...
HURRY
UP!

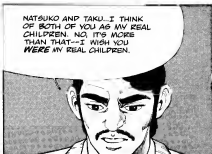
JEEZ,
UNCLE!
WHAT'S
THE BIG
HURRY
?!

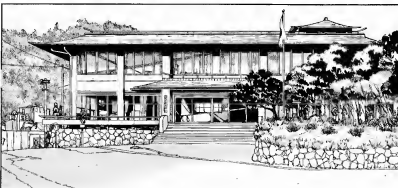
YOU DIDNT
EVEN LET
ME FINISH
MY
MAGAZINE
!

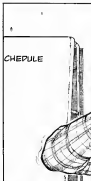
UNCLE
NONOWURA...

Hm
?

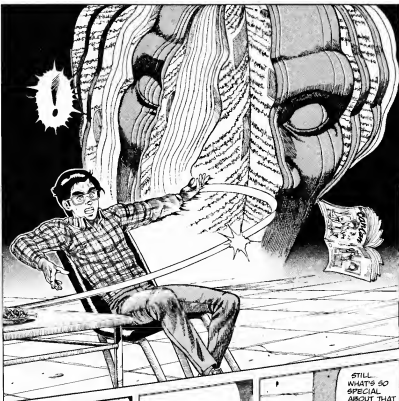
THAT PICTURE... I DIDNT
KNOW THERE WERE ANY
PICTURES, BUT I STILL
REMEMBER THAT ACCIDENT,
JUST A LITTLE. YOU
TOOK THAT PICTURE,
DIDNT YOU ?









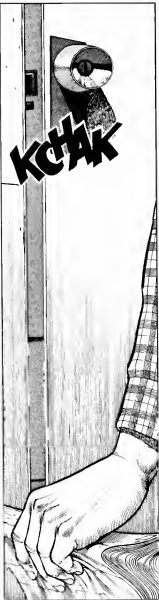


WHAT THE HELL'S
AMATTER WITH ME...?!
THINGS LIKE THAT
DON'T EXIST!
I MUSTA' BEEN
HALLUCINATING...



STILL...
WHAT'S SO
SPECIAL
ABOUT THAT
DAMNED
PICTURE,
ANYWAY?!

KCHAK







WHEN...

.....



Heh, heh... PRETTY GOOD ACTING. HUHS MAY-MAYBE I CAN ACT WITH YOU GUYS TOO... H3, H3 H3...



YEAH, SURE THING, TATSU. UH, WE'RE GETTIN' READY FOR THE BIG DRESS REHEARSAL. BUT, HEY, THERE'S ANOTHER GUY HERE WAITING FOR YOUR DAD, Y'KNOW...



W-WHO! WHAT KIND OF GUY?! N-NOT A BIG GOON IN A BLACK SUIT WITH A CIGARETTE LIGHTER STUCK IN HIS FOREHEAD AND A FACE MADE OUT OF BOOK PAGES...?!



YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING. NOBODY IN A HICK TOWN LIKE THIS COULD DO THAT KINDA HOT MAKEUP JOB...



...ANYWAY...HE SAYS HE'S AN EDITOR FROM THAT RAG, MONDAY ZOOM. MAYBE HE OUGHTTA WAIT UP HERE WITH YOU, HUH?

"MONDAY ZOOM"...? WHERE IS HE NOW?





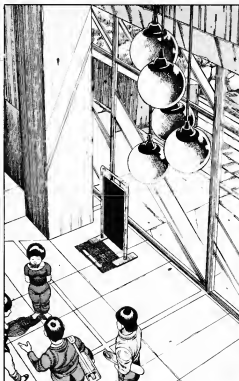
HE'S STILL
IN THE
LOBBY
DOWNSTAIRS.
TALKIN'
WITH SOME
OF THE
ACTORS...



THANKS! I'LL
GO DOWN TO
THE LOBBY
MYSELF. SAFER
IN A CROWD,
ANYWAY.



HUH
?



NOW, LET
ME GET THIS
STRAIGHT--TATSUKI
IS MR. NONOMURA'S
ONLY REAL CHILD.
HE'S JUST BEEN
TAKING CARE OF
NATSUKO AND
TAKU FOR SOME
OF HIS RELATIVES.
IS THAT RIGHT
?

...SO ANYWAY,
IF ALL GOES RIGHT,
GNOME WILL GO
FLYING OFF ON A
FOREIGN TOUR!

WOW!
WILL YOU
BRING US
ALONG?

OF
COURSE
!

HEY...

ISN'T
THAT
TATSUKI'S
CAR...
?

SURE IS...
WHAT'S HE
DOING HERE?
CONFOUND IT,
TATSUKI...

...YOU
NEVER
STUDY! I
PUT YOU
THROUGH
TWO YEARS
OF PREP
SCHOOL,
AND FOR
WHAT?

CHAK

WELCOME
BACK,
MR.
NONOMURA

MR.
NONOMURA...
YOU ARE
KOICHI
NONOMURA,
AREN'T
YOU...?

MY
NAME IS
NAZUKA...
HERE'S
MY
CARD.

MONDAY ZOOM

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
YOKOI NAZUKA
LING COMPANY, LIMITED

WHAT DO YOU
WANT? WE'RE JUST
A CHILDREN'S
THEATRE COMPANY--
HARDLY STANDARD
FARE FOR A
SCANDAL SHEET
LIKE MONDAY
ZOOM...



HAVE
YOU
SEEN
OUR
LATEST
ISSUE...
?



THAT PHOTO--NO!
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT. NOW,
IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE ME...



YOUR SON
TATSUBUKI
BROUGHT
IT TO US,
MR NONOMURA.
HE SAID IT
CAME FROM
YOUR FILES.



REALLY?
AND YOU
BOUGHT
THAT PAK
OF LIES
?



THIS IS NO
TIME TO GET
COY WITH US,
MR. NONOMURA!
NOT FOR YOU,
OR FOR
NATSUKO AND
YOUR OTHER
CHILDREN!

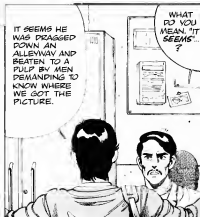
WHAT
THE HELL
DO YOU
MEAN BY
THAT?!



EVER SINCE
THIS WEEK'S
ISSUE HIT THE
STANDS, WE
VE BEEN BOMBARDED
WITH QUERIES
ABOUT WHERE
WE GOT THAT
PICTURE.



OF COURSE, WE
FELT IT OUR
JOURNALISTIC
DUTY TO PROTECT
OUR SOURCES...
BUT ONE OF OUR
EDITORS PAID
THE PRICE FOR
THAT, MR.
NONOMURA.



IT SEEMS HE
WAS DRAGGED
DOWN AN
ALLEYWAY AND
BEATEN TO A
PULP BY MEN
DEMANDING TO
KNOW WHERE
WE GOT THE
PICTURE.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN, "IT
SEEMS"...
?

I SAY "IT SEEMS," MR. NONOMURA, BECAUSE THE HOSPITAL HE'S IN IS A MENTAL HOSPITAL. YES, HE WAS BEATEN UP, BUT THAT'S NOT THE WORST OF IT. HE KEEPS TALKING ABOUT A MAN WHO OPENED UP LIKE A BOOK, AND A MAN WITH A HEAD LIKE A RABBIT...

SO THE MAIN POINT IS THIS: A BUNCH OF THUGS WHO CAN SEND A GUY TO A MENTAL HOSPITAL ARE SEARCHING FOR THE SOURCE OF THAT PICTURE--ARE SEARCHING MR. NONOMURA, FOR YOU!!

WHAT IS THIS CRAP! IF YOU SCANDAL-MONGERING PARASITES HADN'T RUN THE PICTURE IN THAT RAG OF YOURS, NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE EVER HAPPENED!

TATSUKI!

TATSU...

...
OPENED LIKE A BOOK...?
?

TATSUKI,
YOU...!



I-I SAW
HIM, TOO...!
A GUY LIKE
A BOOK, HIS
WHOLE BODY
FLIPPING,
FLAPPING...



WELL, MR
NONOMURA...?



HUH+HEAD LIKE
A RABBIT...
A BOOKMAN...
6-SEVEN
DWARVES... I...



MY
HEAD
HURTS
!!

TAKU
!



DRESS
REHEARSAL
IS
CANCELLED
!!

TAKU..
!



NO, NO, HE
JUST GOT
OVER-EXCITED
THAT'S ALL



IT'S REALLY NOTHING
TO WORRY ABOUT,
BUT I'LL LEAVE YOU
SOME MEDICINE TO
BRING DOWN THE
FEVER. THE LITTLE
TYK'LL BE UP AND
RUNNING AROUND IN
NO TIME AT ALL.



I'LL
BE OFF,
THEN. TAKE
CARE...



THANKS, DOC—I
REALLY APPRECIATE IT.



WHAT HAPPENED,
TAKU...? IT'S YOUR
BIRTHDAY, TOO--
WHY, TODAY OF
ALL DAYS...

ZZZ...
ZZZNZZ

YOU'RE
LOOKING MORE
AND MORE
LIKE THE
FATHER I
REMEMBER,
TAKU...

YOU'RE
MAKING A
BIG MISTAKE
KEEPING
SILENT, MR.
NONOMURA
!!

EVERYTHING
TATSUKI'S TOLD
US ONLY CONFIRMS
IT--THEY'RE
AFTER YOU! OR
SHOULD I SAY,
AFTER NATSUKO
AND TAKU...?



JUST
WHAT
ARE YOU
GETTING
AT...?




THE GIRL AND THE
BABY IN THAT PICTURE...
THEY'RE NATSUOKO AND
TAKU, AREN'T THEY?
CERTAINLY, THE YOUNG
GIRL LOOKS LIKE
NATSUKO...



YOU...
YOU SHUT
UP
!!



UNCLE,
STOP
IT!



I CAN ONLY
REMEMBER A LITTLE
FROM WHEN I WAS
A CHILD, BUT ENOUGH
TO KNOW THAT WHAT
HE'S SAYING IS TRUE.
THAT PICTURE IS OF
ME AND TAKU...



...THE THREE
OF US, MY
FATHER AND
ME AND TAKU.
WE ALL CAME
FROM ANOTHER
WORLD.



NA
NATUKO..



AND...
AND OUR
FATHER WAS
MURDERED.



IT'S SAD, SO
VERY SAD...
BUT IT WAS ALL
OVER FOURTEEN
YEARS AGO.
THERE'S NOTHING
I CAN DO
ABOUT IT
NOW.



YOU'VE BEEN
TAKING CARE
OF US EVER
SINCE THEN,
UNCLE
NONOMURA!
AND WE'VE
ALL BEEN
SO HAPPY
TOGETHER...



SO WHY?!
WHY DO THEY
HAVE TO KEEP
CHASING US?
WE HAVEN'T
DONE
ANYTHING!!



DON'T BE
AFRAID,
NATUKO.
I'M RIGHT
HERE--



THAT'S
RIGHT!
THERE'S
NOTHING
TO
WORRY
ABOUT!

WHA-WHA-WHA-??



I MAY NOT
BE ABLE TO DO
MUCH BY MYSELF,
BUT THE POWER
OF THE MASS
MEDIA IS HERE
TO PROTECT
YOU AS BEST
WE CAN,
NATSUKO!



I DON'T
WANT TO RUSH
YOU, MR NONOMURA,
BUT COULD YOU
TELL ME ABOUT
THE DAY YOU
TOOK THAT
PICTURE? THERE
ISN'T MUCH
TIME...

WELL...
IF IT'S TO
PROTECT
NATSUKO
AND TAKU,
I'LL TELL
YOU...

"THE
POWER
OF THE
MASS
MEDIA" - ?
DON'T
MAKE ME
LAUGH
!





YOU'RE UP
AGAINST CUNNINGHAM,
THE RIGHT-HAND
RABBIT OF KAKUO,
RULER OF THE
CRYSTAL
WORLD.



ALL YOU
HUMANS TOGETHER
ARE NO MATCH
FOR HIM. THE ONLY
ONES WHO CAN
TAKE HIM ON ARE



...CAPTAIN
TIME
AND THE
CYBER
SEVEN
!!



THE
ULTIMATE
TRIUMPH
OF
BIOENGINEERING
!

ONLY
A HAIR
AWAY
FROM
GOD
HIMSELF
!

THE
FLIGHT OF
PHOTONS, THE
VERY TIDE
OF TIME,
STEP ASIDE
TO LET US
PASS
!



AND
NOW,
TO
WORK...



LISTEN WELL, TAKU,
EVEN AS YOU SLEEP!
TODAY YOU TURN
FOURTEEN...
TODAY YOU
BECOME NATSUKO'S
FATHER!

FOURTEEN YEARS AGO
YOUR FATHER DIED ON
FREEWAY CONCRETE,
KILLED BY CUNNINGHAM
THE RABBIT-MAN BUT
LONG BEFORE HIS
MURDER, YOUR FATHER
HAD FORESEEN HIS
DEATH...DO YOU
UNDERSTAND NOW,
TAKU?

YOU ARE YOUR
FATHER REINCARNATE,
THE INHERITOR OF
ALL HIS MEMORIES!
YOUR FATHER'S
CLONE!

YOU MUST OVERTHROW
THE DESPOT KAKUO!
YOU MUST PUT THE
RIGHTFUL HEIR ON THE
THRONE OF THE CRYSTAL
WORLD, AND THAT HEIR
IS YOUR OWN DAUGHTER,
TAKU-LUNA OKUSUTAN,
KNOWN IN THIS WORLD
AS...NATSUKO!

THERE...
THAT
SHOULD
DO
IT.

THE ORIGINAL
OF YOUR CLONE
SELF, YOUR GENETIC
FATHER, ORDERED
ME TO REAWAKEN
THE MEMORIES
OF HIS CLONE UNIT
WHEN IT TURNED
FOURTEEN.

BUT YOU'LL
NEED TO FIND
THE CODE BOOK
IF YOU WANT TO
ORDER US TO DO
YOUR BIDDING.
FIND THE
MANUSCRIPT
OF RODAN
!

WHDD

WITHOUT
THAT, FORGET
IT! YOU CAN'T
FIGHT, YOU
CAN'T EVEN
RETURN TO
THE CRYSTAL
WORLD!

ZZT

!

...
CYBER
SEVEN...
...



I'VE GOT YOU NOW, LUNA OKUSUTAN. THE MANUSCRIPT OF RODAN NO LONGER EXISTS. YOU CANNOT CALL ON THE POWERS OF THE CYBER SEVEN TO SAVE YOU THIS TIME!

MEN! ELIMINATE EVERYONE INVOLVED--THE MOST IMPORTANT ONES FIRST, ONE BY ONE!



THEY'LL
ALL
BE
KILLED
!

THAT'S
NONE OF
OUR
BUSINESS..





YOU KNOW
I ALWAYS
THOUGHT
THERE WAS
SOMETHING
FUNNY
GOING
ON...



...BUT THAT
DOESN'T CHANGE
ANYTHING FOR
ME, NATSUKO!
YOUR PROBLEMS
ARE MY
PROBLEMS
!



I...I REALIZE
I STARTED
IT ALL BY
SELLING THAT
PICTURE TO
MONDAY
ZOOM, BUT...

KCHAK



...BUT YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO KEEP
FOLLOWING
ME AROUND
EVERYWHERE!
REALLY,
I'M NOT
BLAMING
YOU,
TATSU.



AH, IT'S
YOU, NATSUKO
MY DEAR
AND I
SEE YOU'VE
BROUGHT
ALONG
YOUNG
TATSUKI...

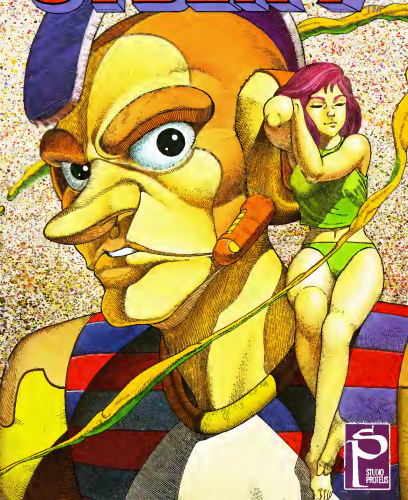
TAKU...
?

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CYBER 7



the PENUMBRA

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ON THE RACKS

- **AIRBOY no. 49 Special Issue!**
The Air Fighters face their darkest hour as *The Airboy Diary* concludes with "Misery Triumphs!"
- **CYBER 7 no. 3**
Can Natsuko find a way to command the Cyber Seven robots to protect him from the deadly Cunningham?
- **FUSION no. 15**
They met as enemies! Now Indio and Haven must struggle together to survive in the Genetech War-created wastes!
- **AIR FIGHTERS CLASSICS no. 6**
Airboy faces a new Axis terror and Iron Ace is accused of murder in this classic reprint of *Air Fighters Comics #7*!
- **POINT BLANK no. 2**
Murder sets the tone for two tales of international intrigue—read "The Case of Marion Colman" and the continuing story of "Dieter Lumpen!"
- **THE SCIENCE SERVICE**
The fate of the world forces members of the Science Service to join together to prevent the invasion shape-changer from falling into the wrong hands.
- **SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 14**
Scout must fight his way through Redwire's troops to be reunited with his son! The three-part epic begins!
- **STORMWATCHER no. 2**
What has caused all of Stormwatcher's old adventuring party to come out of retirement at the same time?
- **APPLESEED: BOOK TWO no. 4**
Olympus' main computer is on a killing spree! If Hitomi can't stop it, the utopian society will be reduced to ashes!
- **TALES OF THE BEANWORLD no. 13**
Mr. Spook's folk-quest continues! And the Cubes leave the pool/pool for the first time!
- **CLIVE BARKER: TAPPING THE VEIN no. 1 New Series!**
Comics' greatest artists—John Bolton, Klaus Jensen, Scott Hampton, Dennis Cowan, John Totleben, Bo Hampton, Dave McKean, P. Craig Russell—illustrate Clive Barker's best stories from *The Books of Blood*. Clive Barker says, "My nightmares look like this!"

JUST THOUGHT YOU OUGHT TO KNOW: Here are the names and addresses of four magazines you are not likely to find at the newsstand. This data comes to you in the world service of *The Great Reference Library in the Sky*.

COMICS CAREER NEWSLETTER
(601 Clinkscapes, Columbia, Missouri 65203): A fine little zine for the aspiring comic book professional, with special emphasis on portfolio evaluations by editor Kirk Chilton. It regularly contains helpful hints from big-time comics editors and publishers about the kind of material they are currently buying. Sample copy: \$3.00, 12 issue subscription: \$24.00.


COVERT ACTION INFORMATION BULLETIN (Box 50272, Washington, DC 20004): A 76 page quarterly slick magazine detailing CIA activities at home (where they're illegal) and abroad. If you like spy fiction, this will thrill you; it's all true, and some of it is researched and written by former CIA employees. Find out about bio-chemical warfare experiments such as the contamination of Cuba with African Swine Fever (and the putative links between AFS and AIDS), learn how to "pinpoint CIA 'dead man and chopped meat' propaganda in third world newspapers, and sharpen your skills by identifying covert operatives right in your own neighborhood! Sample copy: \$6.00, 4 issue subscription: \$17.00.

BLANK IN THE COMICS (c/o Randall Scott, Michigan State University Libraries, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824): This is a fanzine of variable page count and variable frequency published for apa-i-

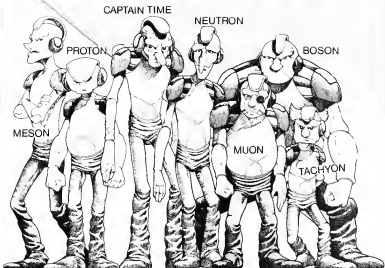
and capa-alpha, in which Mr. Scott and his friends examine in depth how comic books, strips, and gag panels handle topics as diverse as "slicing," "pumpkins," and "spaghetti." Typical issues contain over a dozen illustrations of the chosen subject in features ranging from *Peanuts* to *The Amazing Spider-Man*, with others cited but not illustrated. This is definitely an audience participation zine, so upcoming topics are announced well in advance. If you become a steady contributor, you'll have lots of fun. Because this is an apa-zine, it has no set price; I'd suggest sending Randy two bucks and seeing how many issues he'll send you in return.

EXTRA! (130 West 25th Street, New York City, New York 10001): No, not the *ECLIPSE EXTRA*! This is a 16 page newsletter published by FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy In Reporting) and it documents biases, mistakes, and deliberate dishonesty in newspaper, radio, and television news reporting on a case-by-case basis. Not a political mag, it primarily assesses current news stories for errors. A sample issue statistically documenting race and sex bias on the guestlist of the tv show *Nightline* is currently offered free with an 8 issue subscription for \$24.00, and is well worth it if you care about what is going on in the world.

HOPE YOU ENJOY THEM: When requesting sample copies, please remember that these publications have low circulations and operate on small budgets, so do enclose the money required.

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7TM



BRIDGE THREE: *The Manuscript of Rodan*

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA



WHAT TH--
WHAT IS GOING
ON HERE? IS
THIS SOMETHING
YOU GUYS HAVE
GOING TOGETHER
WITHOUT ME?

YEAH, SURE, I KNOW
I'M NOT YOUR REAL
BROTHER. I KNOW
I'M NO GOOD, THAT
I CAUSED ALL KINDS
OF PROBLEMS BY
SELLING THAT
PICTURE...

...BUT JEEZ
YOU GUYS!
HAVEN'T WE
ALL BEEN
FRIENDS UNTIL
NOW? AND
NOW... NOW
YOU'RE SHUTTING
ME OUT...!

IT'S
NOT
LIKE
THAT
AT ALL,
TAKU
!

YEAH, IT'S TRUE THAT
I SOLD TAKU'S VIDEO GAME
WITHOUT ASKING HIM...AND I
NEVER DID PAY YOU BACK
FOR THAT GAS YOU BOUGHT
FOR MY CAR, NATSUKO...
AND THERE WAS THE
TIME I--

--EH?
IT'S NOT
WHAT
?

THIS...THIS ISN'T
TAKU...
MY FATHER...
HE'S LIKE MY
FATHER!

OH, I GET IT! YOU'RE
MAD AT ME! WELL, YEAH,
I GUESS YOU OUGHT TO
BE...ME GOING AND
SELLING THAT PICTURE
TO A MAGAZINE LIKE
THAT. MUST HAVE BEEN
PRETTY IMPORTANT TO
YOU, THAT PICTURE..

TATSU,
HONEST,
YOU'VE
GOT IT
ALL
WRONG--

...BUT THAT'S
OKAY...I DON'T
CARE. I JUST
NEVER EXPECTED
YOU GUYS TO
TREAT ME
THIS WAY..

BAM

NATSUBO HATES
ME...:SNFFE..
OH, GOD, WHAT
SHOULD I
DO? :SNFFE...

TATSUKI
!!

HOLD IT,
NATSUBO
!

YES, I
THOUGHT I
COULD FEEL
MY FATHER
IN YOU,
SOMEHOW..
BUT THAT'S
NONSENSE!
IMPOSSIBLE



WHEN YOUR FATHER
BROUGHT YOU TO THIS
WORLD FOURTEEN YEARS
AGO, HE'D ALREADY
FORSEEN HIS OWN DEATH.
HE CREATED A CLONE OF
HIMSELF, TO BE IMBUED
WITH HIS OWN MEM-
ORIES WHEN IT TURNED
FOURTEEN.



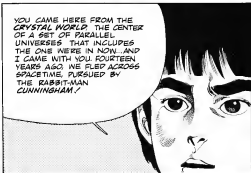
AND I
SUPPOSE
YOU'RE
THAT
CLONE,
HUH?
SURE,
RIGHT!



LISTEN
TO ME,
NATSUKO



YOU CAME HERE FROM THE
CRYSTAL WORLD, THE CENTER
OF A SET OF PARALLEL
UNIVERSES THAT INCLUDES
THE ONE WE'RE IN NOW..AND
I CAME WITH YOU FOURTEEN
YEARS AGO, WE FLED ACROSS
SPACETIME, PURSUED BY
THE RABBIT-MAN
CUNNINGHAM!



TAKU, HOW
CAN YOU KNOW
THESE THINGS..?
I..I'M AFRAID..



NATSUKO, YOU
ARE THE RIGHTFUL
SUCCESSOR TO
THE ROYAL THRONE
OF THE CRYSTAL
WORLD, HELD BY
QUEENS FOR
UNCOUNTED GEN-
ERATIONS! YOU
ARE QUEEN LUNA



I AM
NOT!! I'M
NATSUKO
NONOMURA
!

DO YOU
REALLY
LIKE THAT MAN
NONOMURA
AND HIS SON
TATSUKI...?

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?
OF COURSE I
DO! WHAT WAS
THAT GOT
TO DO WITH
ANYTHINGS?

ONCE CUNNINGHAM
SEES THAT PICTURE IN
MONDAY ZOOM, IT'LL
ONLY BE A MATTER OF
TIME BEFORE HE
TRACKS US DOWN.
AND DIDNT TATSUKI
SAY HE WAS
ATTACKED BY SOME
SORT OF STRANGE
BEING...?



IF YOU AND
I DON'T LEAVE
SOON, NEITHER
NONOMURA OR
TATSUKI WILL
GET OUT OF
THIS ALIVE.

NATSUKO...WHAT COULD THEY
DO? FIRST OF ALL, THEY WOULDN'T
BELIEVE YOU. SECOND, SO LONG
AS YOU FAIL TO RECLAIM THE
THRONE FOR YOURSELF, THIS
WORLD TOO WILL FALL INTO THE
HANDS OF THAT TRAITOR.
KAKUO!

BUT...BUT
COULDN'T
WE TELL
THE
POLICE...?

WHY ARE YOU
TELLING ME ALL
THIS? AM I SUPPOSED
TO HAVE SOME SORT
OF SECRET POWER?
WELL I DON'T!!
I CAN'T DO
ANYTHING!

OH, YES, YOU CAN--
ALL YOU NEED IS THE
MANUSCRIPT OF
ROPAN, THE BOOK
BROUGHT TO THIS
WORLD BY YOUR
FATHER, MY
ORIGINAL!

IF YOU POSSESS
THE MANUSCRIPT,
YOU CAN HARNESS
THE FULL POWERS
OF THE CYBER
SEVEN!

STOP IT! I DON'T
WANT TO HEAR ANY
MORE OF THIS...
THIS RIDICULOUS
TALK OF YOU BEING
MY FATHER'S CLONE!

I
HATE
YOU
!

YOU WOULD
KNOW, BETTER
THAN ANYONE
ELSE, IF ALL
THIS WERE
'RIDICULOUS'
NATSUKO...

B
A
M



TATSU..?



NATUKO..



YOU'RE THREE YEARS OLDER THAN ME, TATSU, BUT YOU'RE SUCH AN AIRHEAD. YOU NEVER SEEM TO DO ANYTHING RIGHT, YOU'RE IRRESPONSIBLE... EVEN STUPID!



I CAN SAY ANYTHING I LIKE TO YOU! YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE YOU'RE MY BROTHER, THAT'S WHY! BECAUSE I'M NATUKO NONOMURA, AND NOBODY ELSE!





WHY...OH WHY
DID YOU HAVE
TO SELL THE
PHOTOGRAPH TO
THAT STUPID
MAGAZINE!
OH, TATSU!



THIS IS AWFUL...
WHAT HAVE I GONE
AND DONE TO
NATSUKO. TO
ALL OF US..?



NA-NATSUKO! TELL
ME. WHAT CAN I DO?
I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU
SAY, ANYTHING!
JUST TELL ME..



OH, BUG OFF!
REHEARSALS
BEEN CANCELLED
BECAUSE OF
TAKU. GO GET
CHANGED AND
QUIT ACTING
LIKE AN
IDIOT.



SEARCH THE
PLACE! IF
ANYONE GETS
IN YOUR WAY,
TERMINATE
THEM!

NOW GO!!






IT WAS
FOURTEEN
YEARS
AGO..



...TATSUKI WAS ONLY SIX OR SEVEN. MY WIFE
HAD FALLEN ILL AND DIED, AND IT WAS EXPECTED
THAT I'D TAKE OVER HER CHILDRENS THEATRE
COMPANY. ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T GIVE A GOOD GOD
DAMN WHAT HAPPENED TO ME ANYMORE. I
STORMED INTO MY COMPANY AND QUIT, THEN
WENT TO A BAR AND STARTED DRINKING.
THAT NIGHT WAS WHEN IT ALL BEGAN..



..I WAS PRETTY DRUNK
WHEN I LEFT THE BAR,
LATE THAT EVENING..
THEN I SAW THIS BIG
ACCIDENT AHEAD OF ME.
I COULD TELL IT HAD
HAPPENED JUST
MINUTES BEFORE..



"PHOTOGRAPHY
WAS MY HOBBY
AT THAT TIME,
AND I ALWAYS
HAD A CAMERA
WITH ME,
OUTFITTED WITH
A HIGH-SPEED
MOTOR DRIVE."







DAMN IT, TIME!
YOU DIDNT OPEN
THE HYPERSPACE
BRIDGE WIDE
ENOUGH! THE
ENERGY LEAKAGE
CAUSED AN
ACCIDENT ON THE
OTHER SIDE!

AH, QUIT
YOUR
WHINING!
YOU CANT
EVEN
READ THE
MANUSCRIPT
OF ZODAN
CORRECTLY
!

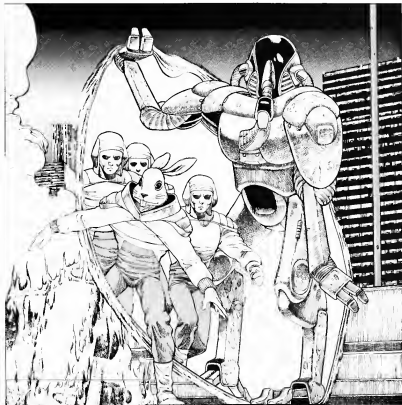


CAPTAIN
TIME'S RIGHT.
THE ONLY
PERSON WHO
CAN GIVE
US ORDERS
PROPERLY
IS THE
QUEEN!

CUNNINGHAM
AND HIS MEN
ARE AFTER
US! CLOSE
THE BRIDGE!
QUICKLY!!

IF YOU
FEEL LIKE
ORDERING US
AROUND, TRY
READING THE
MANUSCRIPT...
!





CYBER SEVEN!
DON'T LET THEM ENTER
THIS WORLD!

IPÄÄGIR'SÜ HÄRÄRIS MÖROKÉSH
RÖBINÄ QK TÄRO--



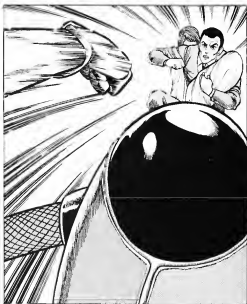




THE MANUSCRIPT
HAS BEEN DESTROYED!
WE'RE FREE! WE
DON'T HAVE TO TAKE
ORDERS FROM
ANYBODY!



NOT SO FAST..
WE'RE DEFENDERS OF
JUSTICE. WE FOLLOW
OUR ORDERS, EVEN
WHEN THEY'RE ONLY
HALF-FINISHED..



KRANGG



CAN
YOU
FLY..?

WHST

I
FIGURE
HE
NEEDS
MORE
MASS..
!

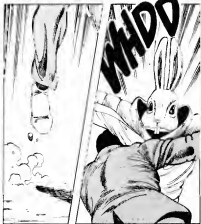
THEN
LET'S
GIVE
IT TO
HIM
!

TWENTY
THOUSAND
TONS
GOOD
ENOUGH
?

NAHH..
LET'S
GO FOR
THIRTY
THOUSAND
!

BDOOM!!

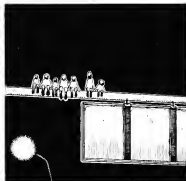








"MOVED BY SOME
POWER GREATER
THAN MYSELF, I
FRANTICALLY
BUNDLED THE TWO
CHILDREN INTO
MY CAR AND FLED
LATER, I FORMALLY
ADOPTED THEM..."



SO...
WE'RE
FREE
AT
LAST,
AREN'T
WE,
TIME
?

NO--NOT YET WE'RE
FREE ONCE I'VE
IMPLANTED THE MEM-
ORIES OF THAT POOR
FELLOW WHO JUST
BURNED TO DEATH
INTO THAT BABY
CLONE. YOU'VE GOT
FOURTEEN MORE
YEARS TO WAIT, YET..

BAH! THOSE
ORDERS ARE
AGES OLD!
AND BESIDES,
HE'S DEAD...
SO WHY
DON'T YOU
JUST
FORGET
IT?

OH, NO..
NOT
CAPTAIN
TIME!
TIME'S
ALWAYS
THE
GOOD
LITTLE
BOY!

I
SUPPOSE
I
SHOULD
BELIEVE
ALL
THIS,
HMM?

YOU
CAN
HARDLY
HELP
US IF
YOU
DON'T..

...BUT MORE TO THE
POINT, AMONG THE
PICTURES I TOOK
THAT NIGHT WERE SEV-
ERAL SHOWING PAGES
FROM THAT BOOK.

YOU
STILL
HAVE
THEM
WITH
YOU
?

SURE
DO!

SUPERS!
YOU'VE
SAVED THE
DAY, MR.
NONOMURA
!

KCHAK

TAKU...
?!





TO BE CONTINUED.

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ON THE RACKS

- **AIRBOY no. 49 Special Issue!**
The Air Fighters face their darkest hour as *The Airboy Diary* concludes with "Misery Triumphant!"
- **OVER 7 no. 4**
Cunningham's evil plan pits Nabuko and his friends against ferocious non-human assassins!
- **DIRTY PAIR 3 #1 New Mini-Series!**
The Dirty Pair go up against Shasta, a renegade S.W.A. agent who had betrayed the Pair years ago, when they first joined the S.W.A.!
- **JAMES BOND 007: LICENCE TO KILL**
Bond resigns from M15 to go on a mission of personal vengeance, in the official adaptation to the newest James Bond movie! Art by Mike Grell, et al.
- **POINT BLANK no. 9**
Now expanded to 40 pages! Two of Europe's best adventure strips continue "The Case of Marion Coleman," and "Dieter Lumpen."
- **HONKEYTONK SUB: THE MAH CANYON**
The Queen of Country Swing takes on the men of Manhattan in a story about relationships, money, coyotes and abortions!
- **SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 14**
Scout must fight his way through Redwren's troops to be reunited with his sons! The three-part epic begins!
- **APPLESEED: BOOK TWO no. 5**
The city computer, Gaea, is on a killing spree, but could it be doing the right thing? Deunan, Biorans and Hitomi must decide in the finale to *Appleseed Book Two*.
- **ZOT! #27**
"Ring in The New"—Part 9! Zot's New Year's Eve party continues! And Zot! fans across the country will find out who "wins" the pie-in-the-face contest!
- **CLIVE BARKER: TAPPING THE VEIN no. 1 New Series!**
Comics' greatest artists—John Bolton, Klaus Janson, Scott Hampton, Dennis Cowan, John Tollebeek, Bo Hampton, Dave McKean, P. Craig Russell—illustrate Clive Barker's best stories from *The Books of Blood*. Clive Barker says, "Your nightmares look like this!"

COLD FRONT: There are two windows in the room where I do my typesetting. One looks to the East and the other to the North. I can't look out both windows at once, but by moving my head from side to side I can create a composite mental picture of the sky and the trees beyond the wall.

Right now, in late May, in late afternoon, the composite picture formed by the two views is schizophrenic. The Eastern window shows bright sunlight, dappled green leaves and a blue sky, while the Northern window looks out on darkly wind-tossed trees under a grey sky. There's a cold front moving in, and the dividing line must run right through the computer screen in front of me. I'm sure I could see it if there weren't a wall in the way.

Is this a metaphor? Something about how looking at life through different viewpoints gives you different opinions of what's going on? Now, it has too long a set-up to be a good metaphor. A good metaphor, especially one in a 570 word editorial, can be put across in exactly one half of a sentence. That one took two paragraphs and I hadn't finished with it yet before it grounded out to centerfield.

It's just a weather report, that's all. The fact that the wind has now crossed to toss the leaves of the Eastern outlook while the sun is still shining behind them isn't a metaphor either, although in the right hands it might be.

If the weather isn't a metaphor, maybe we can have a metaphor about the weather. Right now a giant hand is parting the sky overhead, running a comb through Britcream'd hair. I sit upon the parting line, where the gleaming

scalp shows thinly through.

Maybe it should be a metaphor after all. Maybe it is one. But if it is, I don't know what for. That's the thing about life; sometimes there's no point in it at all, it's just a series of weather reports in search of a metaphoric context.

Ah, yes, a meta-metaphor. How darling.

Can we have a meta-meta-metaphor, huh? Please, huh, with sprinkles and frosting on?


No, not now, dear; we have an editorial to write.

You know, the whole time I've been typing, I've kept looking up to check the views. I've thought some change was sure to come. If you can't use a metaphor, you can always fall back upon an omen.

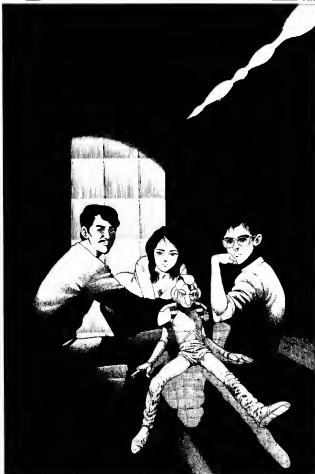
Should the Eastern sky have grown dark and cloudy, it would have influenced the way these words would have turned. Likewise, I was prepared to take a different tack if the North had begun to shine and bluely sparkle.

Twice I thought the balance had been broken. The first time I even began to write about it (that was back in paragraph five), but before I had a sentence out, the line of demarcation had returned to its starting point. Now even the windy toss of leaves in the East has gone. All is bright sun and summer there, and to the North, the winter still frowns down.

My space is filled, my metaphors are meaningless, it's just a weather report, and you will never know which side won, the cold air or the warm. Life's like that sometimes, ain't it?

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE FOUR: NATSUKO RESOLUTE

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

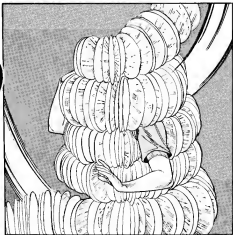
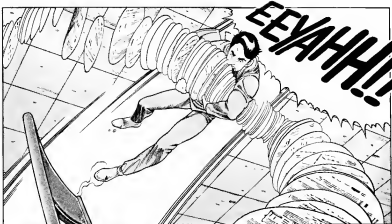
EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA



IT'S ONE OF
CUNNINGHAM'S
CREATURES!
IT WAS ONE
OF THEM
WHO KILLED
NATSUKO
AND TAKU'S
FATHER, AND
ATTACKED
TATSUKI!

TAKU
!

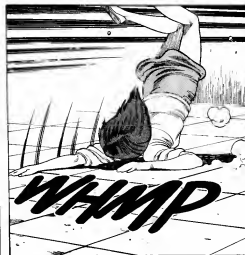
B-BUT
HOW CAN
IT DO
THIS
?!







O...
OKAY!





Heh, heh. TRY USING
YOUR FIRE TRICK
NOW, AND SHE'LL BURN
TO DEATH! OF
COURSE, IF YOU DONT
DO ANYTHING,
SHE'LL SUFFOCATE--
TOO BAD, HMMM?

Heh, heh, heh



DAMN
YOU,
CUNNINGHAM
!!



NATSUKO
!



HELP
ME, YOU
IDIOTS!
PULL
!!







WHA--!!
THE
CYBER
7
!!



YOU--YOU
GUYS STAY
OUT OF
THIS! IT'S
NONE OF
YOUR
BUSINESS
!!



UH, OH...
COPS I
DIDN'T
MEAN...
ER



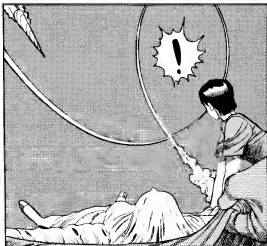
"STAY OUT
OF THIS," YOU
SAID? WAS
THAT BY ANY
CHANCE
SUPPOSED
TO BE AN
ORDER,
CUNNINGHAM
?

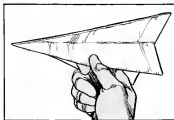
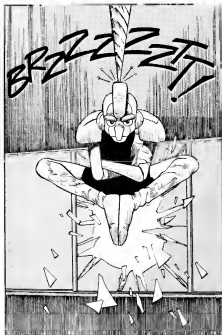
WHY, NOW, THAT
JUST MAKES
US MIGHTY
EAGER TO
GET INVOLVED.
WE'RE KIND OF
CONTRARY
THAT WAY...

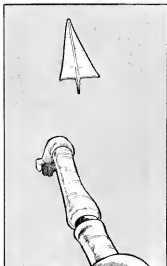
IT'S
THEM.
THE
SEVEN
SPRITES
FROM
THAT
PHOTO...



BOOKMAN!
GET NATSUKO!
FINISH OFF
PRINCESS
LUNA ONCE
AND FOR
ALL!







POOR CUNNINGHAM...
PITTED AGAINST US,
YOUR BOOKMAN'S
NOTHING MORE
THAN A WAD OF
TOILET PAPER.



WELL, WELL...
LOOK HERE--
BOOKMAN'S
HEART.



GHAAAAAHK

I WON'T FORGET
THIS CYBER T!!
NATSUKO WILL
DIE! YOU
JUST WAIT
AND SEE!!



WELL? DONT JUST
STAND THERE
GAPING.. IF YOU
DONT PEEL OFF
THAT PAPER
NATSUKO WILL
SUFFOCATE!



ONE...
TWO...
THREE
!!





NATSUKO!
ARE
YOU--



HA, HA, TAKE
A LOOK AT
THIS! OL'
CUNNINGHAM'S
RUNNING
LIKE HIS
TAIL WAS
ON FIRE
!!

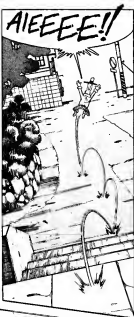


EXCUSE
ME...



**LISTEN UP,
CUNNINGHAM!!**

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN KILL
ME, YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER
THINK COMING! I'LL DRAG
YOU AND KAKUO DOWN
AND KILL YOU BOTH,
I SWEAR!



I'M
GOING
BACK
HOME...
TO THE
CRYSTAL
WORLD.

NATSUKO..
I WON'T..
YOU CAN'T..

I'M
GOING
BACK

I CAN'T
CAUSE YOU
ANY MORE
TROUBLE,
UNCLE
NONOMURA.

TROUBLE?
IT'S NO
TROUBLE!
I'LL
PROTECT
BOTH
OF YOU
MYSELF!

I
UNDERSTAND
HOW YOU
FEEL, UNCLE,
BUT YOU
REALLY
CAN'T
PROTECT
US--YOU'LL
JUST GET
YOURSELF
KILLED.

BUT YOU KNOW...JUST
A FEW MINUTES AGO, WHEN
I WAS ABOUT TO DIE, WHEN I
COULDN'T EVEN BREATHE, I
WASN'T SCARED AT ALL.
I JUST FELT THIS SWELL OF
RAGE AT KAKUO...AT HIS
CRUELTY, BURNED INTO MY
MEMORY FOREVER WHEN
I WAS A CHILD...

ANYWAY, THAT'S HOW
I FELT! KINDA SILLY, ISN'T
IT? WHEN I TOLD
CUNNINGHAM I WOULD
CRUSH HIM, I FELT LIKE
I'D LEFT MY GIRLHOOD
BEHIND...LIKE MAYBE
I AM REALLY
A QUEEN...

...IT
FELT
GREAT
!

PRINCESS
LUNA...

...YOU'D BETTER
REMEMBER ONE
THING--IF YOU
REALLY WANT TO
FIGHT KAKUO, OR
EVEN GET BACK
TO THE CRYSTAL
WORLD, YOU'RE
GOING TO NEED
THE MANUSCRIPT
OF RODAN.
REMEMBER
THAT!



WHP

I
DO NOT
BELIEVE
THIS...

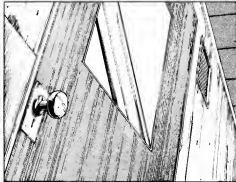


WHAT WAS
HE TALKING
ABOUT?
THAT
MANUSCRIPT
THING?



AH...
THAT'S
RIGHT.

ALL RIGHT,
EVERYBODY--
COME WITH
ME!



THESE ARE THE
REST OF THE
PHOTOS FROM
THE BATCH
TATSUKI TOOK
THE OTHER
PICTURE FROM.
THEY'RE ALL
THE ONES I
TOOK THAT
DAY.



THEY'RE A
SERIES OF
SHOTS OF
PAGES OF THE
MANUSCRIPT,
JUST BEFORE
CUNNINGHAM
BURNED IT.



DEFINITELY
LOOKS LIKE A
WRITTEN
LANGUAGE...
BUT I CAN'T
MAKE OUT
A WORD
OF IT.

GEE, DAD YOU
SAY YOU'RE SUCH
A HOT PHOTOGRAPHER,
BUT CAN'T YOU
EVEN FOCUS
PROPERLY...
?



HOW
ABOUT YOU,
NATSUKO?
CAN YOU
READ
THEM?





MMM...
SORRY!
NO WAY!



YOU DID GET
A LOT OF THE
PAGES, MR.
NONOMURA,
BUT I'M
AFRAID THEY'RE
INDECIPHERABLE.

WELL...



TATSUKI...

YEAH?



WASN'T ONE OF
YOUR FRIENDS WHO
GOT INTO
UNIVERSITY DOING
SOMETHING WITH
COMPUTERS THERE?
MAYBE HE KNOWS
SOMEONE WHO CAN
FIX UP THESE
PICTURES.



I'VE HEARD THAT
YOU CAN USE COM-
PUTERS TO CLEAN
UP IMAGES, LIKE
FOR SPY SATEL-
LITES AND STUFF.
IF HE COULD
GET ACCESS TO
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT...



SURE! DON'T
KNOW IF IT'LL
WORK OR
NOT, BUT I'LL
GIVE IT A
SHOT. I'LL
HEAD OUT
THERE RIGHT
NOW.



UNCLE
NONOMURA...

DO YOU THINK
YOU CAN TRY
TO ACT LIKE
NOTHING HAD
PENED? JUST
TELL THE REST
OF THE COM-
PANY THAT
TAKU AND I
HAD TO GO
BACK TO
TOKYO...?

GUESS
SO...

I THINK
IT'S BETTER
THAT WE
VANISH,
AT LEAST
FOR A
WHILE.



OKAY,
DAD--
WE'RE
OFF
!

YOU BE
CAREFUL
NOW--
THEY
MIGHT
TRY
AGAIN.

I'D DO
ANYTHING
FOR
NATSUKO
!

YOU TOO, ME.
NONOMURA—
YOU MUST FEEL
LIKE THE GOOD
STEPFATHER
IN A FAIRY
TALE, WATCHING
YOUR "DAUGHTER"
LEAVE TO
BECOME A
QUEEN.



YOU'VE GOT IT
ALL WRONG, MR. NAZUKA!
I'LL BET DAD WASN'T
ADMITTED IT TO HIMSELF,
BUT I KNOW HOW HE
FEELS ABOUT NATSUKO—
AND IT ISN'T LIKE A
FATHER!



TATSUKI!
WHAT DO
YOU—

NO, YOU LISTEN! I'VE
BEEN WANTING TO SAY THIS
FOR A LONG TIME! I KNOW
WHY YOU SENT ME AWAY TO
THAT EXPENSIVE PREP SCHOOL—
TO KEEP NATSUKO AND ME
APART! IT WASN'T OUT OF
FATHERLY LOVE... IT WAS
PURE JEALOUSY!



THAT'S
A
BUNCH
OF—



SEE?! DIDN'T
I SAY YOU
HAVEN'T ADMITTED
IT TO YOURSELF?
BUT I CAN
TELL...!



OH, YEAH?
AND WHAT
MAKES YOU
SO SURE
?



I JUST KNOW, PROBABLY
BECAUSE I LOVE NATSUKO.
TOO! I HAVEN'T THOUGHT
OF HER AS MY LITTLE SIS-
TER FOR A LONG TIME—
AND I KNOW A RIVAL
WHEN I SEE ONE!








EVERYONE'S LIVES ARE FULL OF HIDDEN POSSIBILITIES, TAKU...



SOME PEOPLE WANT TO BE DOCTORS, OTHERS WANT TO DRAW COMICS...



BUT UNTIL NOW, I NEVER HAD ANY FEELING OF WHAT I WANTED TO BE. I JUST DRIFTED ALONG THROUGH LIFE...




BUT NOW--NOW I THINK IT'S BETTER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY I'M OFFERED. OTHERWISE, HOW CAN YOU EVER FIND OUT ABOUT YOURSELF? HOW CAN YOU REALLY KNOW YOU'RE ALIVE?



CHALLENGING YOUR ABILITIES, EXPERIENCING LIFE... I ALWAYS THOUGHT THOSE THINGS SOUNDED SO OLD BUT MAYBE THOSE ARE THE ONLY IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE...



YOU KNOW, THE MOMENT I DECIDED TO GO HOME, EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD BECAME DEAR TO ME.

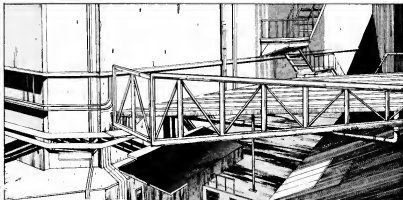


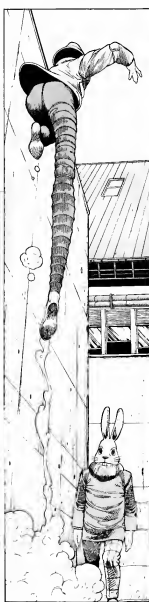
ALL THE SOUNDS AND SMELLS OF EVERYDAY LIFE, ALL MIXED UP IN THE WIND AND CARRIED TO US HERE...THEY SEEM SO CLOSE, YET WE'RE ALL ALONE. I CAN SEE FAR, FAR AWAY, YET NO ONE DOWN THERE EVEN LOOKS UP. NO ONE NOTICES ME, AND...



..IN
JUST A
LITTLE
WHILE...
IT'S
GOODBYE,
FOREVER.









I'VE
BEEN
AWAITING
YOUR
REPORT,
CUNNINGHAM
!

TO BE CONTINUED.

SCANNED BY: EVANGELISTI
EDITED BY: ZOMBIEBOASTER
TEAM KOMICS-LIVE.COM
SPECIAL THANKS TO: PRAJNESH



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No 5

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CYBER 7™



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The titles say it all—Furry Animals versus Manga...to the finish!

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CONNIE

Four episodes from the incredible 1930s newspaper strip by Frank Godwin are here collected!

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For the Barbarian hardly lives up to his name. How can he possibly help Stormwatcher complete his mission?

THE SCIENCE SERVICE

During the New Festival of Britain in 1951, former members of the Science Service must join together again to prevent the Imago shape-changer from falling into the wrong hands!

A MESSAGE FROM THE NOTE

FAIRY: It's very late at night. Sean and I are leaving tomorrow for our two-week summer vacation, and I've just spent the last two hours writing little notes to Stan and Sean and Laurie about what to do while we're away.

"Laurie, please water the house plants on Tuesdays and Fridays, and turn the vegetable garden sprinkler on for an hour every three days," says one of these notes.

Another reads, "Stan: I didn't have time for these, so please get Sean to typeset the pre-written ones (I've specced the fonts, but he'll have to adjust point sizes). Ask Fred to write and typeset the back-cover copy. Tell him it's important. Phone him the dimensions and the specified fonts and sizes, then have him modem it all here for Sean to print out."

A third note proclaims, "When the rest of Brancato's Bush cards text comes in, send it to Geets for typesetting, and when Bill's final Dictators card arrives, photocopy it and send to S&M the same day—they already have the type."

A tiny note, written on a little yellow post-it and stuck to a stack of artwork, is very brief: "This must go out to S&M on Monday!"

I feel kind of like the Tooth Fairy, working through the night, leaving little surprises in my wake. Perhaps I am the Note Fairy.

All of this last-minute note-making reminds me of the many important things I have forgotten to tell you, dear readers.

If you were asleep in bed right now (instead of awake and reading this) and I were really the Note Fairy (instead of just an editor about to go on vacation), I would fly through your house in

the darkness, and leave little notes all over the furniture for you to find when you woke up.

What kind of notes would I surprise you with?

Oh, for instance: "Did you know you can charge any Eclipse back issue order totalling more than \$20.00 to your American Express account and we'll even take the order over the phone if you call (707) 887-1521 between 9 am and 5 pm Pacific Daylight Savings Time?"


Or: "Have you heard that we have a brand new 16 page full colour catalogue which Laurie will gladly send to you if you just write and request it?"

And: "P.S. She will also include a big bunch of flyers for graphic albums and a back issue order form along with the catalogue if you ask for them at the same time."

Then, as I sprinkled polite dust all over your kitchen table, I'd leave you this final note: "Social workers, hospital volunteers, and prison wardens, send us a request on your official letterhead and we will ship you a free box of assorted comics and graphic albums. Please specify in your letter the quantity of comics desired (from 25 to 100) and whether the assortment is intended for children or adults."

Yes, that's what I would do tonight... if I were the Note Fairy.

But I'm not the Note Fairy. I'm just a sleepy editor with one last note to write before I go away on vacation: "Sean, here's the July Penumbra. Paste my signature at the bottom and it's ready to run."

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7™



BRIDGE FIVE: The Clockwork Crystal

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA





--THE WHOLE
SORDID TALE OF
FOOLISH AND
INEXCUSABLE
FAILURE!



SHALL
I WIPE
YOU OFF THE
DIFFERENT
PARALLELS
ONCE AND
FOR ALL,
CUNNINGHAM
?



B-BUT LORD
KAKUO! SURELY
NOT THAT!
FOR FOURTEEN
YEARS I'VE
FAITHFULLY--



YES, INDEED--FOR
FOURTEEN YEARS
YOU'VE BEEN UNABLE
TO CAPTURE ONE
LITTLE GIRL! YOU'RE
A USELESS FOOL,
CUNNINGHAM!

UNFORTUNATELY,
IT'S ALSO TRUE
THAT YOU'RE MY
ONLY AGENT ON
THAT PARTICULAR
PARALLEL
DIMENSION.



THAT HATMAN
YOU SENT
AFTER
THE BOY
TATSUKI--
IT WAS
YOUR LAST
ASSISTANT,
WAS IT
NOT?



YES,
SIR,
BUT--




AND JUST
WHAT IS
THIS
TATSUKI
UP TO,
HMM?



I'M NOT REALLY
CERTAIN, SIR. IT
SEEMS TO HAVE
SOMETHING TO
DO WITH THE
PHOTOGRAPHS
NONOMURA TOOK
OF THE
MANUSCRIPT
OF RODAN.



IT DOESN'T
MATTER.
HERE ARE
YOUR ORDERS,
CUNNINGHAM--



LET THEM RECONSTRUCT
THE MANUSCRIPT. THEN TRICK
PRINCESS LUNA, OR 'NATSUKO'
IF THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE
CALLING HER, INTO COMING
HERE. I WANT HER AND THE
DAMNED CYBER 7 WITHIN MY
GRASP. I'M LOOKING FORWARD
TO THIS, CUNNINGHAM,
VERY MUCH INDEED.



OH, YES... ONE
MORE THING.
IF YOU FAIL
ME THIS
TIME, I'LL
TERMINATE
YOUR ENERGY
FEED, OF
COURSE.



DO YOU
HAVE
SOMETHING
TO SAY,
CUNNINGHAM
?



OH,
BROTHER
!



EXILED ON THIS
MUDBALL FOR
FOURTEEN YEARS..
AND ALL I'VE
LEARNED THAT'S
WORTH KNOWING
IS THAT THE
GREATEST
INVENTION OF
THE HUMAN
RACE IS...



...TOBACCO!
ARRHH...JUST
WHAT IT TAKES
TO SATISFY
A LOW-GRADE
SUICIDE
FANTASY, LIKE
MINE...

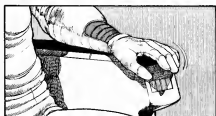


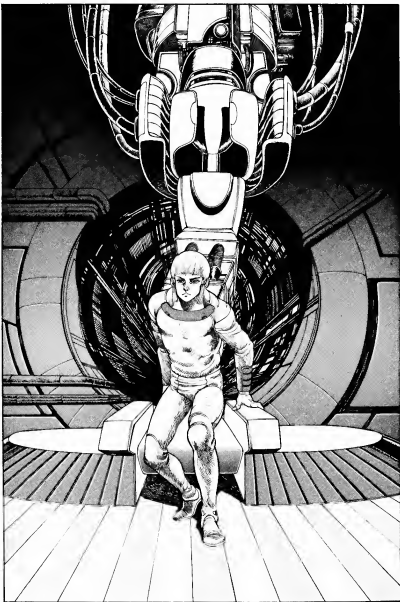
LORD
KAKUO,
SIR...IT'S
ZERO
HOUR.

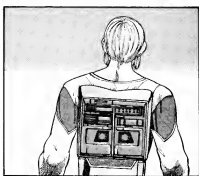


VERY
WELL...ALL
PERSONNEL
ARE INSTRUCTED
TO COMPLETE
SHUTDOWN
PROCEDURES.
I'M
GOING TO
SLEEP.







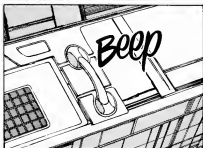
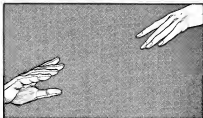




SORRY, BUT ITS
THE ONLY THING
THAT WORKS ON
MY NERVES THESE
DAYS. YOU NAGGING
ME ABOUT IT
DOESNT HELP.
BACHIRU.



LOOK, DROP THE 'KAKUO'
WILL YOU? DURING YUDA'S
SLEEP PERIOD I'M KORIDO
FROM ZERO HOUR TO SIX
I'M JUST YOUR HUSBAND,
ALL RIGHT?




DEFENSE
MINISTER
KORIDO
HERE.

FOR THE LAST FEW
MONTHS, THEY'VE ALWAYS
DONE SOME KINDA SAB-
OTAGE DURING THE FIRST
PART OF YUDA'S SLEEP
CYCLE. THIS TIME THEY
JUST WASTED PART OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL
CONTROL SYSTEM.

SORRY TO BOTHER
YOU DURING YUDA'S
SLEEP CYCLE, SIR.
THIS IS BRUTONI, IN
CHARGE OF THE
NORTHERN ADMIN-
ISTRATIVE DISTRICT.
I'M CALLING ABOUT
THOSE GUERRILLAS...

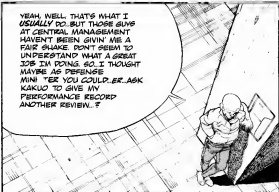




GUESS IT'S NO BIG DEAL,
BUT I'LL MAKE THEM SORRY
THEY TRIED ANYTHING IN
MY DISTRICT. I'LL HAVE THE
LOT OF THEM IN CHAINS
FOR YOU, SIR-- JUST
WAIT AND SEE.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO
CALL THE MINISTRY
OF DEFENSE FOR
THAT, BRUTONI. WHY
DIDN'T YOU JUST
NOTIFY A CENTRAL
MANAGEMENT BUREAU
REPRESENTATIVE?



YEAH, WELL, THAT'S WHAT I
USUALLY DO. BUT THOSE GUYS
AT CENTRAL MANAGEMENT
HAVEN'T BEEN GIVIN' ME A
FAIR SHAKE. DON'T SEEM TO
UNDERSTAND WHAT A GREAT
JOB I'M DOING. SO, I THOUGHT
MAYBE AS DEFENSE
MINI TER YOU COULD...ER...ASK
KAKUO TO GIVE MY
PERFORMANCE RECORD
ANOTHER REVIEW...?



JUST GET
AFTER
THOSE
GUER-
RILLAS
NOW!



ALL
THEY'RE
NOTHIN'...
MY MEN
CAN
HANDLE
THEM.



IF YOUR MEN CAN
HANDLE THEM, BRUTONI,
THEN OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE
NOT NEEDED. YOU CAN
EXPECT YOUR DISPOSAL
NOTICE FROM KAKUO IN
A FEW DAYS. GOODBYE!



NO!
WAIT,
SIR! NOT
THAT!
I JUST
MEANT--




GET THOSE
GUERRILLAS
IMMEDIATELY,
BRUTONI!



DAMNED
FOOL!



KORIDO...



KAKUO IS THE SYMBOL OF THE
CONCENTRATED POWER OF THE CRYSTAL
WORLD... BUT I'M THE ONE WHO HAS TO
TURN A HOLLOW IDOL INTO AN ALMIGHTY
GOD! AND AT THE SAME TIME, I HAVE
TO 'SERVE' KAKUO AS DEFENSE
MINISTER. JUST ANOTHER COB IN A
SURVEILLANCE SOCIETY, PUSHING
PAPERS AND FIGHTING REP TAPE...
TWO ROLES, AND I'M THE ONLY
ONE WHO CAN DO IT!



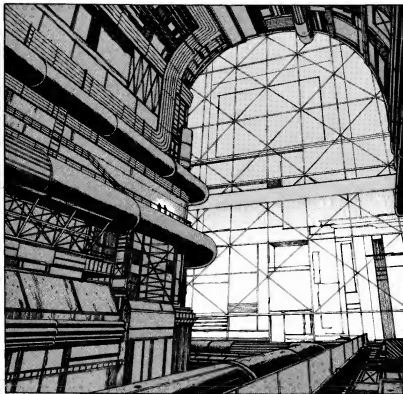
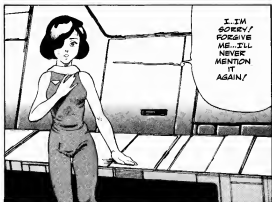
I... I
CAN'T
HELP
FANTASIZING
SOMETIMES,
BACHIRU...

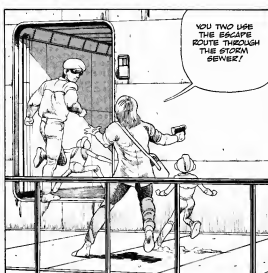


...I FANTASIZE ABOUT
STALKING OVER THIS DIMEN-
SION--OVER ALL THE PARALLELS
CONNECTED TO THE CRYSTAL
WORLD--IN KAKUO'S FORM,
CRUSHING THOSE WORTHLESS
INCOMPETENTS BEFORE ME!



LIKE
YOU DID
FOURTEEN
YEARS
AGO...?



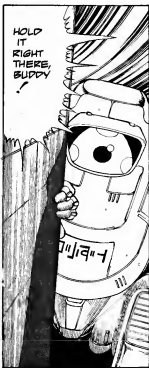
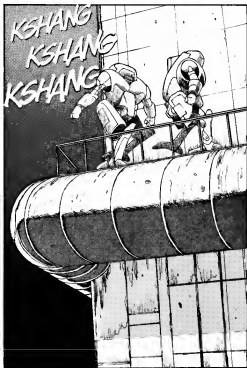
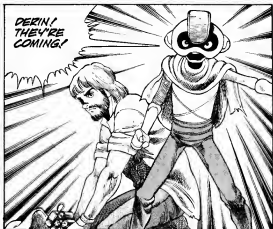


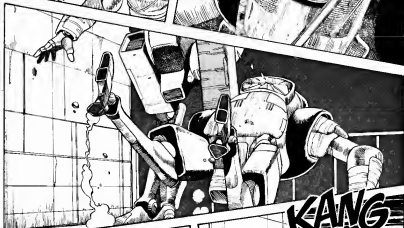
AND IF PRINCESS
LUNA RETURNS, OUR
HEROES WILL COME
WITH HER... THE CYBER T!!
Hah! LET'S SEE HOW
LONG KAKUO LASTS
AGAINST THEM!

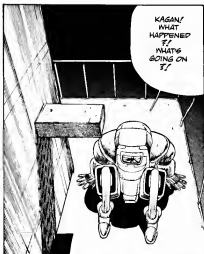
ALL RIGHT, GET
MOVING! YOU'VE
GOT TO GET IN
PLACE FOR THE
NEXT PHASE!

GOTCHA
!

OKAY...
TIME TO
TAKE OUT
THIS POWER
CABLE.
READY,
GOMAT





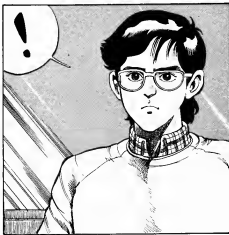
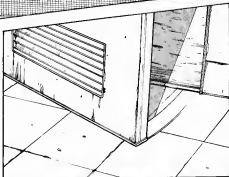
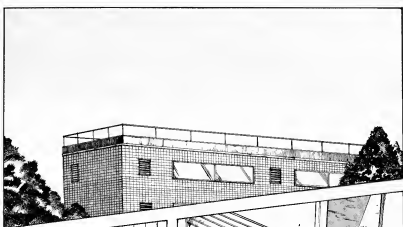






UH, OH...
TWO GUARDS
AND THEIR
SUITS, JUST
FOR SOME
LOUSY
GUERRILLAS..

A WEE
BIT TOO
EXPENSIVE,
THAT COULD
MEAN MY
JOB. DAMN
IT ALL,
ANYWAY!



HEY, IT'S ALL
CLEARED NOW,
NONOMURA--I
TALKED THE PROF
INTO IT.

HELL
DO IT
?!
GREAT
!

BUT HE
WANTS
SOMETHING
OUT OF
IT--

REALLY
? WHAT
?

THE PROFS GOT THIS
THING ABOUT ANCIENT
SCRIPTS, LIKE THAT
STUFF IN THE PICTURES
HE SAYS HE WANTS TO
KEEP A COPY FOR
HIMSELF

IS THAT
ALL? SURE,
SURE, NO
PROBLEM--
HE'S A
PROFESSOR,
AFTER ALL.

EXCUSE ME,
DOCTOR UMSHARA/
THIS IS MY
FRIEND NONOMURA--
HE'S STILL TRYING
TO PASS THE
UNIVERSITY
ENTRANCE EXAMS

HEY! THANKS
A LOT, BUDDY!
ER...P.PLEASSED
TO MEET YOU
DOCTOR!

QUITE SO...HMM.
LET'S GET GOING--
THERE ARE A LOT
OF PAGES TO DO.
WE'LL VERY
PROBABLY BE
HERE ALL NIGHT,
ANYWAY.



FIRST,
WE CLAMP
THE PHOTO
INTO THE
SCANNER.



BY THE
WAY, MR.
NONOMURA,
JUST
EXACTLY
WHAT
KIND OF
WRITING
IS
THIS...?



WELL,
ER,
IT'S...
UH...





TO BE CONTINUED...

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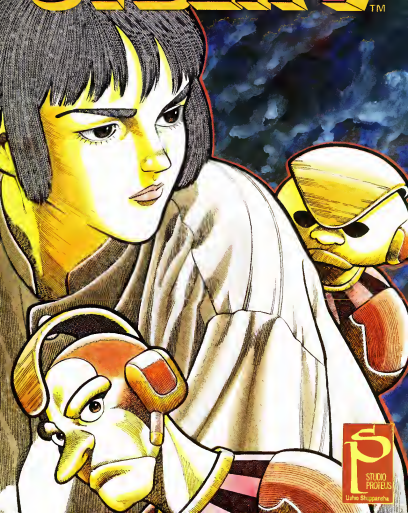
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CYBER 7

TM



STUDIO
PROBUS
Uta Shuppansha

The ECLIPSE PENUMBRA

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PLUM CITY: It's too late this year to ask you, but next year, in mid-July, could you please phone me at (707) 887-1521 and make an appointment to pick up your free plums? Unless the crop fails completely due to a rainy blooming season, we will once again have more than any two armies could possibly consume, and I think it's time for you to take your share.

This year the early plums, the "bird" or "cherry" plums, made no crop because they got rained out, and the Santa Rosas also missed, but we have yellow "sugar" plums (known locally as Luther Burbanks) in profound abundance, and the late-season Nubians are bending to the ground already, even though they've just begun to show colour.

Some people curse the birds who eat their plums, but at Eclipse we have too many plums for that. We'd like to call in a bird air force to eat our extra plums.

I hate to see this bountiful production go to waste. Nubians can be dried for prunes, but although Burbanks are excellent eaten out of hand, they are too watery for drying, and in about a week they'll have fallen all over the ground and become food for yellow jackets.

Visitors say that plum trees full of fruit look like decorated Christmas trees. But when I gaze up at the unstable linkage of each individual plum to its branch and note the rows upon rows of such plums, the thousands of plums, each tethered to its tree by a fragile stem, I know that in another week all the plums we could not eat will be at my feet, fermenting, feeding wasps, and rotting. I see the plums arrayed above not as organic Christmas ornaments but as The Great Compost Heap in the Sky. I'd like to make a stop-action movie, 12 frames every half hour

for two weeks, as they ripen and drop, then run it at full speed. Kabloom. Kabloom. Kabloom.

My favourite is the big old Burbank tree behind the office. Most of the time I see it as a truly friendly being with its outspread horizontal branches and its fruit so easy to reach, all packed together in convenient rows. It seems to love us and want to feed us, perhaps to excess (certainly to excess), but with good intentions. It goes through so much trouble every year on our behalf, creating all those perfect, perfect yellow plums. One feels grateful to it.

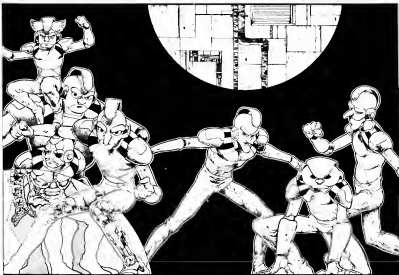
Then I look again, but a little toward the dark side. These yellow plums are just a bribe the tree gives out to animals, each eaten plum a chance that we will drop the pit on fertile soil. We do as it wishes; there are plum seedlings all over the place. I have to grub them out of the flower beds every spring. And sexual reproduction alone isn't enough. Oh, no. It sends out root suckers too, and has formed an immense prickly thicket around itself. I have to thin the suckers every winter so we can get close enough to the trunk to gather plums in July. Feeding us is not this tree's real goal. No, this plum plans to take over Sonoma County. Perhaps it even plots to ultimately conquer the world.

And you can help. Come visit us next year. Pick your free plums. Take home a sack. And throw the pits out in your yard.

I can almost hear it laughing as I write this. That's what it really wants, you know—new land on which to build Plum City.

catherine yronwode


CYBER 7TM



BRIDGE SIX: On With The Show

BY SHUHO ITAHASHI

TRANSLATION BY DAVID LEWIS AND TOREN SMITH

LETTERING AND RETOUCH BY WAYNE TRUMAN EDITED BY LETITIA GLOZER

PRODUCED FOR ECLIPSE COMICS INTERNATIONAL BY STUDIO PROTEUS

ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION PUBLISHED BY USHIO SHUPPANSHA

EDITED BY NOBUYUKI UKITA



WHAT
BUSINESS
OF YOURS
IS IT
ANYWAY, MR
NAZUKA?

WELL, I WANT
TO KNOW TOO,
TAKU!

WITH EVERYONE CALLING
ME A QUEEN AND
EVERYTHING, I'VE KIND
OF STARTED FEELING
THAT WAY MYSELF. BUT
NOW THAT I THINK
ABOUT IT, I REALIZE
I DON'T REALLY KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT IT
AT ALL.

NATSUKO, YOU'VE
GOT TO UNDERSTAND—
ONCE TATSUKI RECON-
STRUCTS THIS
MANUSCRIPT OF RODAN,
WE'RE GOING HOME.
WE'RE GOING TO
VANISH UTTERLY
FROM THIS WORLD!

AND SINCE
WHEN IS
IT MY
DUTY TO
SPILL OUR
SECRETS
TO OUTSIDERS..
?

DUTY WAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH IT!
IT'S JUST
COMMON
REGENCY
!

IF IT WASN'T FOR MR.
NAZUKA, WE'D STILL BE
BACK THERE PUTTING
UNCLE NONOMURA AND
THE OTHERS IN DANGER.
WE COULDN'T HAVE
GOTTEN THIS FAR
OURSELVES..WE OWE
HIM FOR OUR SAFETY.

YOU MAY HAVE OUR FATHER'S
MEMORIES, BUT AS FAR AS
I'M CONCERNED YOU'RE STILL
MY LITTLE TAKU, MY BABY
BROTHER! HOW CAN I TAKE
A LITTLE BOY SERIOUSLY,
HMM?

I WILL
NOT
HAVE MY
DAUGHTER
SPEAKING
THAT WAY
TO ME!!

OOOH, BIG BOY, BIG BOY!
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME WITH
YOUR "GROWN-UP" ACT--
I FOUND THAT NINTENDO
VIDEO GAME IN YOUR
BACKPACK!

OKAY, OKAY!
ENOUGH
ALREADY!
IT'S NOT
WORTH
FIGHTING
ABOUT!

WHAT'S THE
BIG IDEA,
SNOOPING
THROUGH
MY
LUGGAGE
?!

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
LOOKING
IN MY
BABY
BROTHER'S
BACKPACK
?!

YOU'RE
IN BIG
TROUBLE
NOW--!

ALL RIGHT,
YOU TWO--
COME OUT OF
YOUR CORNERS
FIGHTING, AND
NO PUNCHES
BELOW THE
BELT...

WAIT!
WAIT! I
DEMAND A
REMATCH
!

LOOK...LET'S
GET SERIOUS
HERE. MR.
NAZUKA, I'LL
TELL YOU
WHAT YOU
WANT TO
KNOW.

.....

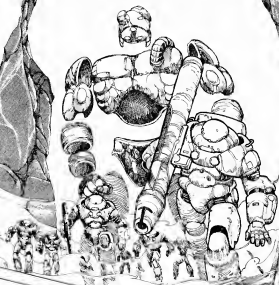
COME
ON, YOU
COWARDS
I--AHH?

LET ME
KEEP
THIS
SIMPLE.

ON A PARALLEL PLANE OF
EXISTENCE, AT EXACTLY
THE SAME COORDINATES
THAT THE EARTH
OCCUPIES IN THIS
UNIVERSE, THERE IS
ANOTHER WORLD.
THE CRYSTAL
WORLD. IT IS
THAT WORLD,
AND THAT
UNIVERSE,
NATSUKO AND
I COME
FROM.

FOR COUNTLESS GENER-
ATIONS, THE CRYSTAL
WORLD HAS BEEN RULED
BY A LINE OF EMPRESSES
IN A MATRIARCHY
STRETCHING BACK
THOUSANDS OF YEARS.
NATSUKO'S MOTHER, OR
I SHOULD SAY
PRINCESS LUNA'S
MOTHER, WAS ANRIYONA,
EMPRESS OF THE
CRYSTAL WORLD.

"AND THEN...
COUP D'ETAT!
FROM OUT OF
NOWHERE CAME
KAKUO—NO ONE
KNEW WHO HE
WAS, OR EVEN
WHAT HE WAS



"EMPRESS ANRIYONA
DEFENDED THE
PROTECTORATE TO
THE LAST, BUT KAKUO
KILLED HER WITH
HIS OWN HANDS.

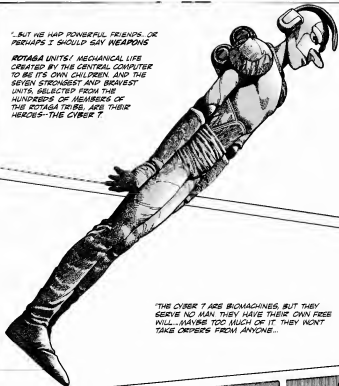


"MY ORIGINAL,
LUNA'S FATHER,
FLED WITH
LUNA AND HIS
YOUNG CLONE.
IT SEEMED
HOPELESS...



"...BUT WE HAD POWERFUL FRIENDS...OR
PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY WEAPONS

ROTAGA UNITS! MECHANICAL LIFE
CREATED BY THE CENTRAL COMPUTER
TO BE ITS OWN CHILDREN. AND THE
SEVEN STRONGEST AND BRAVEST
UNITS, SELECTED FROM THE
HUNDREDS OF MEMBERS OF
THE ROTAGA TRIBE, ARE THEIR
HEROES--THE CYBER 7.



"THE CYBER 7 ARE BIOMACHINES, BUT THEY
SERVE NO MAN. THEY HAVE THEIR OWN FREE
WILL...MAYBE TOO MUCH OF IT. THEY WON'T
TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYONE...

"...UNLESS THE ORDERS ARE DELIVERED USING THE
MANUSCRIPT OF ROPAN. WHEN THE COMMAND CODES
IN THE MANUSCRIPT ARE READ--WITH PERFECT PRONUNCIATION--YOU CAN OVERRIDE THEIR AUTONOMOUS
CIRCUITRY AND USE THEM AS YOU WILL. BUT THE
PRONUNCIATION OF THE CODES IS EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT...ONLY THE EMPRESS HAS BEEN GENETI-
CALLY ENGINEERED TO DO IT PROPERLY. OTHER
PEOPLE CAN ONLY APPROXIMATE THE SOUNDS,
AND SO THEIR CONTROL OVER THE CYBER 7
IS IMPERFECT."

SPELLS!
JUST
LIKE
MAGIC
SPELLS...



NOW THEN, MR. NAZUKA--SURELY YOU'VE HEARD OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES FOR OPERATING COMPUTERS? THAT'S ALL THE MANUSCRIPT IS, JUST OPERATIONAL CODES IN A PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE, AN EXTREMELY SOPHISTICATED HIGH-ORDER LANGUAGE, TO BE SURE, BUT STILL NOTHING MORE THAN COMMAND CODES FOR IMPLEMENTING CYBER 7 PROGRAMS.

FOURTEEN YEARS AGO, WE USED THE POWERS OF THE CYBER 7 TO ESCAPE TO THIS WORLD. AND I--I MEAN MY ORIGINAL-- WAS KILLED.

EVEN NOW, THOSE BRAVE CITIZENS OF THE CRYSTAL WORLD WHO REFUSE TO BOW TO KAKUO'S DARK RULE MUST BE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE REST OF THE ROTAGA TRIBE. NATSUKO HAS TO RETURN AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND DESTROY THE USURPER--THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!

THERE'S JUST ONE THING I DON'T GET THIS KAKUO'S FOUND OUT WHERE YOU AND NATSUKO ARE--SO WHY DOESN'T HE LAUNCH AN ALL-OUT ATTACK AND FINISH YOU OFF?

IN THE PAST, ANZYONA USED THE POWERS OF THE CYBER 7 TO DISCOVER SIX PARALLEL PLANES OF EXISTENCE. THERE MAY BE MORE. BEFORE SHE WAS KILLED, SHE BUILT PERMANENT GATEWAYS TO THREE OF THOSE WORLDS, BUT TO REACH THE REST--INCLUDING EARTH--ONE NEEDS THE POWERS OF THE CYBER 7. KAKUO'S ONLY AGENT ON THIS PARALLEL IS HIS LACKEY CUNNINGHAM, A RABBIT-HEADED ROTAGA UNIT.

OH,
TAKU,
THAT'S
JUST
50000
AWFUL!
I'M
50000
AFRAID!
HAH!

DAMN IT,
IT'S NOTHING
TO LAUGH
ABOUT.
NATSUKO!
YOUR
LIFE'S AT
STAKE
HERE,
TOO!

LOOK...I DON'T
THINK YOU'D LIE TO ME,
BUT MAN, OH MAN!
THIS IS REALLY ALL
TOO MUCH--I THINK
I'D RATHER DO MY
TAXES THAN TRY
TO BELIEVE YOU.

GHISA REGIONAL
PERFORMANCE HALL

NATSUKO
AND TAKU
WENT
BACK TO
TOKYO,
HUH?

WHAT?
OH,
YEAH...

BY THE
WAY,
BEAR...

...DONT WE HAVE
A BUNCH OF
PRESCHOOLERS
COMING IN
TOMORROW FOR
THAT SPECIAL
PERFORMANCE,
BEFORE WE
START THE REG-
ULAR RUN?

YEAH, BUT I'VE
BEEN WONDERIN'
WHAT WE'RE GONNA
DO, WITH MISS
NATSUKO BEIN' GONE
AND ALL...

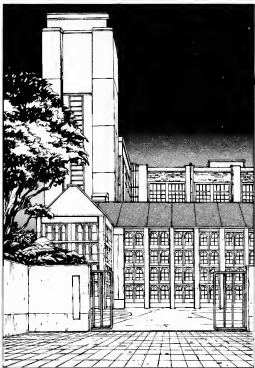
CANT
WE
CANCEL...
?

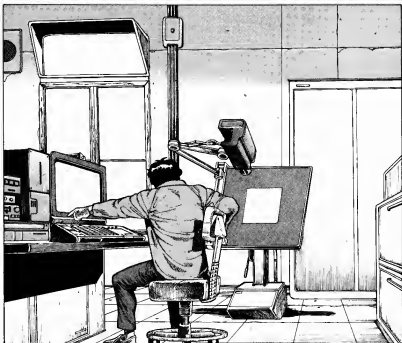
AW! GEE, BOSS!
WE CANT DO
THAT! I MEAN,
LOCAL TV'S
GONNA BE
THERE AN'
EVERYTHING!

AN' WE USED THE TICKET
MONEY FROM ALL THOSE KIDS
TO PAY THE RENTAL ON THIS
HALL, Y'KNOW! JUST THINK OF
ALL THE BAD PUBLICITY! GEEZ,
BOSS, IF WE CANCEL NOW
WE'RE GONNA LOSE TICKET
SALES SOMETHIN' AWFUL!

THAT
BAD...
?

BEAR, YOU
KNOW THAT OLD
FAIRYTALE... THE
ONE WHERE
THE OLD
WOODCUTTER HAS TO
SEE HIS ADOPTED
DAUGHTER, THE
MOON PRINCESS,
GO BACK TO
HER KINGDOM IN
THE SKYT DID
YOU EVER FEEL
SORRY FOR THE
WOODCUTTER... ?







WELL, GEE, PROFESSOR, IF NOT EVEN YOU CAN TELL WHAT KIND OF WRITING IT IS, HOW CAN YOU EXPECT A DUMMY LIKE ME TO KNOW?



I JUST GOT ASKED TO DO IT, THAT'S ALL SORRY.

THEN WHO ASKED YOU TO DO IT?



ER... UMM... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT IT WAS A PRINCESS FROM A MYSTERIOUS KINGDOM...?



YOU KNOW, DR. UMEHARA, I'D SAY THAT TATSU HERE IS TRYING LIKE HELL TO COVER SOMETHING, SO MAYBE YOU'D BETTER JUST GIVE UP, HMM?



I'D APPRECIATE THAT, AND FOR YOUR WORK--

--THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



I'LL BE IN TOUCH!



DAWN IT
ALL! IT'S
THREE A.M.
ALREADY
!



GEE...



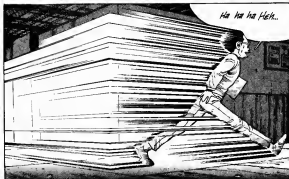
STOP THAT
YOU IDIOT! IT'S
JUST YOUR
IMAGINATION!
GROW UP OR
SOMETHING!

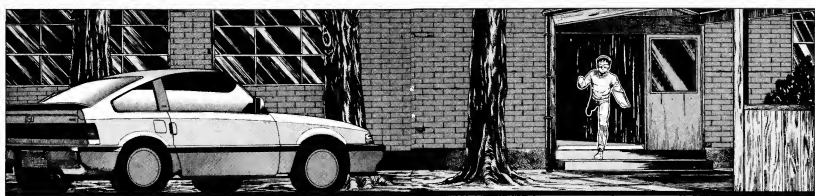


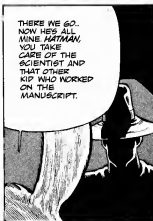
DESERTED
BUILDINGS
ARE SURE
CREEPY
AT
NIGHT...

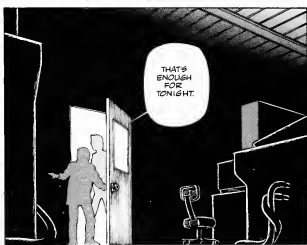


Ha ha ha Heh...

















WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
THAT
FOR
?



MY GOOFY
SISTER SAYS
SHE'S GOING
BACK TO
UNCLE
NONOMURA'S
PLACE.



THEY'VE GOT A
PERFORMANCE TODAY,
AND I'M THE STAR.
THE MORE I THINK
ABOUT IT, THE MORE
I THINK THAT I
SHOULD GO BACK.
THE SHOW MUST GO
ON, AFTER ALL.



HEY, IT
WAS YOUR
IDEA TO
HIDE OUT
HERE IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!

WELL, THAT'S
BECAUSE
EVERYONE
WAS CALLING
ME A
PRINCESS.
I JUST GOT
CARRIED
AWAY, I
GUESS.



BUT WHAT'S
THE GOOP OF
RUNNING WHEN
THERE'S REALLY
NO PLACE TO
HIDE? I'VE
DECIDED TO JUST
ACT LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED AND
GO BACK TO
OTSU. THAT'S THE
LAST PLACE
CUNNINGHAM
WILL THINK
OF LOOKING,
ANYWAY.



HUH! GIRLS!
CAN'T UNDERSTAND
'EM...

TAKU!
WILL YOU
PLEASE
GET OUT
OF BED
!

GUNNINGHAM
WILL FIND
YOU ANYWAY,
NATSUKO--

DON'T FOOL
YOURSELF."

"WELL, WE'LL
JUST HAVE TO
CROSS THAT
BRIDGE
WHEN WE
COME
TO IT,
TAKU."

WHAT?/
YOU'RE
GOING TO
PERFORM
?!

THAT'S GREAT!
BETTER THAT WAY, HUH?
SAFETY IN NUMBERS
AND ALL THAT--LET HIM
COME, I SAY, JUST
LET HIM!

ALL
RIGHT!
ON WITH
THE SHOW
!!



THE TALE WE ARE ABOUT TO PRESENT FOR YOU, OH HONORED GUESTS, IS ONE YOU MUST NEVER, NEVER WHISPER TO EVEN YOUR CLOSEST FRIENDS. THEY SAY THAT ONCE, IN A FAR, FAR DISTANT LAND, THERE LIVED A LITTLE RED RABBIT. AH, YES, SUCH A FETCHING LITTLE RABBIT.



AH...
TATSUKI,
MY BOY!
ER, SORRY.
I, UH,
MEAN HI,
TATSU!



LOOK THE
MANUSCRIPT
OF RODAN.
IT IS GOOD
YOU CAN
RETURN TO
THE CRYSTAL
WORLD.









ALL RIGHT,
CUNNINGHAM!
YOU ASKED
FOR IT!
RR'AMOPHAS
K'R'IKUU
CYBER T!



GEE
THIS
IS LIKE
"STAR WARS"
OR
SOMETHIN'!

GOSH...

YEAH, I
THOUGHT
SOMETHIN'
CALLED
"THE RED
RABBIT"
WOULD
BE REAL
KID STUFF
BUT THIS IS
COOL!

TO BE CONTINUED...